

Five things you need to know today Edinburgh



- Royal Automobile Club 1000 Mile Trial begins from Leith today
- Play Outdoors in Craigmillar
- EdFringe App now available
- Volunteers needed at Leith Theatre
- Funds donated to Ronald McDonald House

This year's Royal Automobile Club 1000 Mile Trial is to begin in Edinburgh this morning. There are some rare and very lovely cars taking part, and so if you are anywhere near the Malmaison Edinburgh this morning you may see some beginning their drive out through the Borders ending at Woodcote Park which is the RAC HQ.

With an entry fee of around £6,000 this is an event for those who can afford it, but the competitors were very happy to show off their cars yesterday to anyone passing by.

We met the delightful Whyte Sisters yesterday morning:

[The Edinburgh Reporter News – The Whyte Sisters](#) from [Phyllis Stephen](#) on [Vimeo](#).

[Read more here.](#)





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Play Outdoors Family Activity Day on the green beside Craigmillar Library, sponsored by EDI

Tigan Jack (9) and Paris Jack (11) enjoy the Activity day in Craigmillar.

A temporary greening site in Craigmillar was transformed into a place of family fun thanks to a unique initiative organised by The EDI Group.

Members of the local community came together to take part in a variety of activities as part of Play Outdoors – an initiative designed for parents and their children to enjoy.

With support from the City of Edinburgh Council and charity Carr Gomm, the event included a library bus, storytelling as well as mask and hat making.

Located behind the neighbourhood office on Niddrie Mains Road, the temporary greening site offers a usable community space while work continues on the current town centre development.

EDI's subsidiary, PARC Craigmillar Ltd, which is responsible for the ongoing regeneration of Craigmillar, launched the temporary greening site in April. The site which is reserved for the development of the new high school provides an open green space for residents to use and includes an upgraded footpath along with a new woodland and orchard area.

Denise Havard, Community Development Manager for EDI, said

“The temporary greening site has been a big hit with local residents since its launch providing a safe and convenient community space while the town centre regeneration takes place.

“We were thrilled to welcome families to Play Outdoors for a fantastic afternoon of fun and are inviting residents to put forward their suggestions for using the site for activities and events in the future.”

The ongoing regeneration of Craigmillar will deliver high-quality retail and residential spaces, alongside other amenities through a phased approach over the next six years.

For more information about the temporary greening site contact The EDI Group on 0131 220 4224 or visit www.edigroup.co.uk.



The EdFringe App is one of the very good things about the Fringe – and this year’s version is now available to download on IOS and Android.

EdFringe have given us the links: “We have a brand new Fringe App for 2016 and we’re very excited to announce that it is now available for download for [iOS](#) and [Android](#).”



If you are any good at DIY , cleaning, painting or gardening then Leith Theatre need you in August. They have workdays organised and would love it if you could join them for even a few hours to make a difference to the building.

[Information here.](#)



Andy Kelly travelled with his family to Edinburgh last week to present a cheque worth £7,500, to Ronald McDonald House

Charities. The donation will go towards the construction of the new Ronald McDonald House Edinburgh, which will provide free 'home away from home' accommodation to families with children in hospital. The Charity enables seriously ill children to have their families close by when they are undergoing treatment and allows them to maintain a degree of normal family life.



(L-R) Andy Kelly and Vicki Siddall

Ronald McDonald House Charities is in discussions with NHS Lothian regarding proposals for a 26 bedroom Ronald McDonald House that would be built on the top floor of the new children's hospital. The accommodation would be made available to families free of charge and for as long as they need.


Andy Kelly and his wife, Alison, set up their charitable fund, Ronald McDonald Isle of Man Families and Friends, over 20 years ago to raise awareness of Ronald McDonald House Charities. They used the facilities of Ronald McDonald House Alder Hey in Liverpool for 18 months when their daughter, Freya, was receiving treatment at Alder Hey Children's Hospital for a congenital heart condition.

Since then, the friends and families throughout the Isle of Man have raised over £400,000 in total for Ronald McDonald House Charities, through various fundraising efforts and donations.

Andy Kelly, Chair of Ronald McDonald Isle of Man Families, says: "We're really happy that we can contribute towards the new build project of the Ronald McDonald House in Edinburgh. Our family had never heard of Ronald McDonald House Charities until we were offered free accommodation when our daughter, Freya, was in hospital, so we wanted to raise awareness of their life changing work and show our support by encouraging fundraising to support the Ronald McDonald Houses used by many

families from the Isle of Man.”

To find out more about Ronald McDonald House Charities and how to support the charity in other ways, visit: www.rmhc.org.uk.

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